



Stars and Bars



Sheriff William M. Hutton

A Quarterly Publication of the Washington County Sheriff's Office

Winter 2007

William M. Hutton sworn in as Sheriff of Washington County



Sheriff Hutton was sworn in by Judge Thomas Armstrong

My transition to the Washington County Sheriff's Office has gone extremely well (in my opinion). We hit the ground running on January 2nd at 9:00 a.m. I am appreciative to those who attended the swearing-in ceremony and the celebration that followed. When the well-wishers and cake were gone, the work began.

The learning curve has been steep but exciting. On day-two, when I had the nerve to venture in the hallways on my own for a self guided tour of the building, I got lost but only for a moment. A very nice observant sheriff's office employee saw the panic (embarrassment) in my eyes and directed me to my destination.

The command staff has also experienced the steep learning curve. Our staff meetings are spirited, exciting and entertaining. There are lots of great ideas being put on the table. We often need to sit back and take a breath. We also need to recognize that this is a marathon not a sprint.

As many of you have noticed, I make my rounds throughout the building and courts daily. I have chosen to meet as many Sheriff's Office staff in the hallways, roll calls and work areas versus the administration area. However, if you feel the need to have a discussion please call and we can meet.

The following is a snapshot of some of the projects we have worked on since January:

We have had conversations with a couple contract cities for a remote response. This will mean that deputies report directly to their contract city for shift. Roll-call will be conducted via technology. A video system will be installed allowing the deputies to interact at roll-call from their contract area. No, we are not attempting to isolate the deputy to the contract but rather allowing the deputies to spend more time in the contract and integrate more into the community that we are serving. We have many quirks to work out with this project but two communities have committed and are excited to participate.

The Apprehension Unit (yet to be officially named) is off to a great start. The project started as a philosophical discussion and developed into a unit. Our approach is going to be as well rounded as possible. Deputies from several divisions have been selected to be members of this unit. I envision the unit identifying real "crooks" (violent offenders, violators of court orders where violence is involved, and warrants) or receiving referrals from throughout the Washington County judicial system of individuals that need to be picked up. Once identified, they (Apprehension Unit) will then hunt them down.

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Please keep in mind that this (Apprehension Unit) does not preclude any deputy from going after these “crooks”. A significant amount of time has been dedicated to getting this project going. We are working with the County Attorney’s Office to develop policies and provide additional training. Community Corrections is playing a considerable roll in the development of the project. To date we have had some noteworthy successes; several “bad guys and bad girls” have been hunted down already.

We have accelerated the hiring process for open positions. All of the open positions in our office have been filled with quality new people. Our increased pace in the process has not reduced the quality of our new employees.

As big or small as it may sound, there has been some change to the winter uniforms across all divisions of the Sheriff’s Office. The mock neck/turtle neck has been implemented. Plain clothes personnel have been given the option to dress in business casual. Correctional and court staff have the option of short sleeve or long sleeve year round.

Additional technology has been added at the courts. If you have the opportunity to go to the courts area, you will see a computer added to the work station outside of courtroom 2. This computer will allow courts personnel additional functionality at a work station.

Several on-going projects continue. The Mobile Data Computer project and 800 MHz radio project continue on schedule. Both of these projects are under the guidance of Captain Pott. The building project with the courts expansion is moving forward. A new communications center will be built as part of this project.

I very much appreciate the hard work that everyone does within the Sheriff’s Office. I receive calls on a daily basis from members of the community recognizing the good work we do. Thank you.

Wal-Mart Donates AED to the Sheriff’s Office

By Commander Cheri Dexter



Sheriff Hutton, Kristin Thompson, John Lomnicki and Brenda Gamache

Wal-Mart, located in Oak Park Heights, participated in a nationwide contest to sell the most 3M Band-Aids. The Wal-Mart located in Oak Park Heights placed 18th in the nation in this product promotion. The prize the store received was a Heart Start (AED) to be donated in the area of public safety. Sergeant Larry Osterman of the Court Security Unit sent Wal-Mart a request for the AED. The Washington County Sheriff’s Office Court Security Unit was chosen to receive the donation.

The AED will be located at the bailiff station in the Government Center. The Government Center services hundreds of Washington County residents a day. The addition of the AED to the Government Center will be a great benefit to public safety.

On Thursday, April 12, 2007, Sheriff William M. Hutton accepted the donation at the Oak Park Heights Wal-Mart from John Lomnicki, Kristin Thompson and Brenda Gamache.

Building Expansion

By Captain Steve Pott

By now you are all aware that there will be major construction beginning soon on the Government Center/Law Enforcement Center Campus. The most significant parts of the construction will be a 3 story addition to the Law Enforcement Center and a new 5 story Courts building located between the Government Center and the Law Enforcement Center. The top three floors of the LEC will house the Communications Center and Technical Support/800 MHz area as well as the in-custody arraignment courtroom. The next floor above that will be the County IT department and Financial Services, and the top floor will be the County Attorney.

Construction is scheduled to begin in September. There will be some preliminary site work beginning in May that will involve relocating a storm sewer line that runs in the old road right of way between the existing buildings. As construction proceeds, the inmate tunnel will be removed and prisoners will be transported around the complex to a temporary sally port to be built on the north side of the Government Center.

The tentative schedule for construction is:

Site prep work	May – September '07
Excavation/concrete work	September – November '07
Erecting steel and completing building	November '07 – May '09

Remodel existing 2nd floor area of Courts will take 7 to 8 months beginning after the new courts area is open.

Remodel existing 1st floor area of Courts area will take about 6 months after the 2nd floor is complete.

A 200 foot crane will be installed in the road that currently leads to the Government Center loading dock area. This crane will be large enough to reach all corners of the construction site. The area between the existing buildings will be fenced off, and pedestrian traffic will be routed north near the exit from the parking ramp, up the stairs, and into the north entrance near the Jury Assembly room. Another possible route may exist to the south also, but there will be significant construction traffic and it may not be practical to establish this route. The current entrance to the parking ramp will be closed permanently, and plans are being developed to change the existing exit to accommodate inbound and outbound traffic. The parking and traffic patterns on the ramp may be changed to facilitate access to the lower level of the ramp.

The construction project will cause some disruption to our operation, but the long term benefits will be well worth the trouble. The new courts area is designed with security in mind, and will accommodate the increasing number of people visiting the courts area each day. The new Communications Center will afford us room to meet current and future space requirements.



Artist's rendition of the building when completed. Front view of the Law Enforcement Center and Courts building

New Employees:

Communication Center	Classification	Effective Date
Melissa Oleson	911 Dispatcher	March 19, 2007
Susan Cook	911 Dispatcher	March 20, 2007
Katie Cafferty	911 Dispatcher	April 2, 2007

Jail Division	Classification	Effective Date
Erica Moats	Office Support II	January 29, 2007
Jacqueline Dahms	Correctional Officer II	March 12, 2007
Christopher Jack	Correctional Officer II	March 13, 2007
James Troendle	Correctional Officer II	March 19, 2007

Patrol Division	Classification	Effective Date
Peter Pavich Jr.	Deputy Sheriff	March 19, 2007
Matthew O'Hara	Deputy Sheriff	March 26, 2007

Transfers:	To	From	Effective Date
Paul Burkhardt	Correctional Sgt	Correctional Officer II	February 25, 2007
Lee Bloomquist	Deputy-Court Security	Grant Township	March 25, 2007
Amy Larsen	Office Specialist-Admin.	Office Specialist-Civil	March 25, 2007
Carol Anderson	Office Support II-Civil	Office Support II-Records	March 25, 2007

Promotions:	To	From	Effective Date
Dan Starry	Commander	Sergeant	January 2, 2007
Marv Stutz	Commander	Sergeant	January 2, 2007
Cheri Dexter	Commander	Sergeant	January 2, 2007
Pat Olson	Commander	Sergeant	January 2, 2007
Mike Johnson	Chief Deputy	Commander	January 2, 2007
Lonnie Van Klei	Patrol Sergeant	Deputy Sheriff	February 25, 2007
Michelle Dunham	PSAP Coordinator	911 Dispatcher	March 25, 2007
Crystal Kline	PSAP Coordinator	911 Dispatcher	April 8, 2007

Retirements	Classification	Effective Date
Bernie Morency	Commander	January 16, 2007

Commander Bernie Morency Retires

By John Warneke



Commander Bernie Morency retired on January 16, 2007 after over 26 years at the Washington County Sheriff's Office. Bernie started on August 8, 1980 as a Deputy Sheriff. He worked the Afton Contract, was an FTO, DARE Officer, SWAT/Negotiator and in January 1996 he was assigned to start the Volunteer Services Unit. He was promoted to Sergeant on November 16, 1998 and was assigned to the Communication Center. He was appointed to Commander of Special Services Division in November 2003 where he stayed until he retired. Bernie received a Meritorious Service Medal in 1999 for starting the Volunteer Service Unit. We wish Bernie well on his retirement.



Katie Cafferty



Susan Cook



Jacqueline Dahms



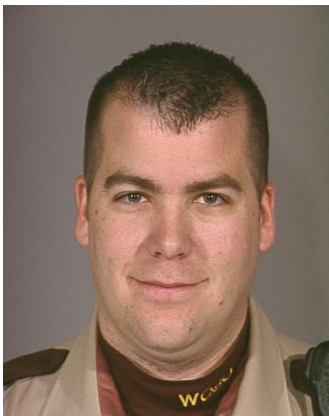
Christopher Jack



Erica Moats



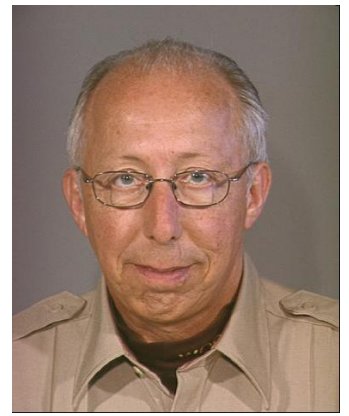
Melissa Oleson



Matthew O'Hara



Peter Pavich Jr.



James Troendle



Deputy Matthew O'Hara was sworn in by Judge Jorgensen



Deputy Peter Pavich Jr. was sworn in by Judge Ekstrum

Lonnie Van Klei Promoted to Sergeant

By John Warneke

Lonnie Van Klei was promoted to Patrol Sergeant on February 25, 2007. Lonnie started his career with the Sheriff's Office on April 30, 1991 as a Deputy Sheriff. He has worked the Hugo Contract and Grant Contract, has been a Firearms Instructor, Field Training Officer, Special Response Team Tactical and is currently a SRT Negotiator. He worked as an Investigator from 2000-2005 and then transferred to the Court Security Unit until he was promoted to Sergeant. Lonnie is currently assigned to the afternoon shift in the Patrol Division.



Lonnie and Sheriff Hutton

Tele-communicators Week and Communication Promotions

By Commander Dan Starry

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution recognizing the important work of Public Safety Dispatchers as part of National Public-Safety Telecommunications. National Public Safety Telecommunications Week was celebrated from April 8th – April 14th, 2007. On April 13th, there was a special recognition ceremony hosted by Sheriff Hutton for our Communications Center/Public Safety Answering Point employees. Washington County Sheriff's Office provides 24-hour dispatching services to respond to emergencies throughout the county. Communications Center staff is often the community's first contact when assistance is needed. They are a vital link between first responders and citizens in crisis. In the 4th Quarter of 2006 alone, the Communications Center Staff answered over 11,000 911 calls and answered over 88,000 telephone calls. Currently we have 30 employees that are employed in our Communications Center.

Congratulations are also in order for two Communications Center Staff that were recently promoted. Michelle Dunham was promoted from 911 Public Safety Dispatcher to PSAP Coordinator on March 25th. Crystal Kline was also promoted from 911 Public Safety Dispatcher to PSAP Coordinator on April 9th. Please stop by and congratulate both of them. They will do a great job.



Michelle Dunham and Sheriff Hutton



Crystal Kline and Sheriff Hutton

Office of the Sheriff

By Commander Pat Olson

As we enter another chapter of Washington County Sheriff's Office history, we must look back at the rich history of which has been laid out before us. Historical documents show there have been 29 Sheriffs office seats held.

1. Phineas Lawrence	1840-1846
2. James Fischer	1846
3. W.H.C. Folson	April 6 th -Sept 6 th 1847
4. Johns Morgan	1847-1849
5. Jesse Taylor	1849-1851
6. William Penney	1851-1854
7. Asa B. Green	1854-1855
8. William C. Johnson	1856-1857
9. Granville M. Stickney	1858-1862 (replaced by George Davis during term)
10. George Davis	1862-1865
11. G.M. Seymore, Esq.	1865-1867 (replaced by George Davis during term)
12. George Davis	1868
13. S. Newell	1869
14. Joseph R. Carli	1870-1872
15. J.A. Johnson	1873-1880
16. Chas P. Holcombe	1881-1891 (1885 2 year term begin)
17. Adam Marty	1891-1895
18. Granville W. Smith	1895-1903
19. Oscar Ostrom	1903-1911
20. Louis D. Jarchow	1911-1915
21. E.E. Wells	November 8-12, 1915
22. Thomas Maher	1915-1943
23. Ruben Granquist	1943-1971
24. Edward Westohal	1971-1979
25. James R. Trudeau	1979-1994(replaced by Kenneth Boyden during term)
26. Kenneth Boyden	1994-1995
27. James Frank	1995-2005(replaced by Steve Pott during term)
28. Steve Pott	2005-2007
29. William M. Hutton	2007-Present.

As you can see from the above list there is a time span that covers a wide range of historical events. As you may have noticed there are several points of interest regarding the terms and men that have held the position of Sheriff. The County's first sheriff was actually listed officially as a "collector" and this eventually turned into the position of Sheriff. Phineas Lawrence was sworn in as "collector" in 1840 and held that position for approximately 6 years. It was from there that the position of Sheriff was formed and in the following decades the office of sheriff was filled by Election and in some cases appointment. As you can see there is one person that held the position of Sheriff on 4 different occasions, that is Sheriff George Davis. It should be noted that in the early years of Sheriff's elections they were partisan elections and this played a significant role in the office of sheriff and the campaigns that ensued. There is one man listed that there seems to be some debate about his actual role as the Washington County Sheriff and that is S. Newell (1869). It seems that Sheriff Newell may have actually been the Ramsey County Sheriff and did sheriff duties on an as needed basis for Washington County, I am still attempting to obtain further information regarding the events surrounding that issue. Another point of interest is over the span of 56 years (1915-1971) only 2 men held the position of Sheriff in Washington County, that was Thomas Maher and Ruben Granquist, though this feat is obvious, to put this elected position in perspective the following Presidents held office during their terms. Presidents: Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, Hoover, F. Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon.

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While research was conducted for this article it was found that there was a Sheriff that before now was not recognized in current lists and that is of Sheriff W.H.C. Folsom. While discussing the history of the office of Sheriff with Brent T. Peterson the Executive Director of the Washington County Historical Society there was a discussion over the actual first name of our 2nd listed Sheriff, it was discovered that during his term he was replaced by W.H.C Folsom, the actual reason and events surrounding this is still being investigated.

I realize that there are countless events that have taken place over the past 167 years. I hope that you find this small piece of history, of which we all hold a piece of, interesting. I welcome any information, pictures or comments you may have as we continue to develop records of our history. Please feel free to contact me at Patrick.Olson@co.washington.mn.us or call me at 651-430-7858.



Sheriff Adam Marty 1891-1895

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